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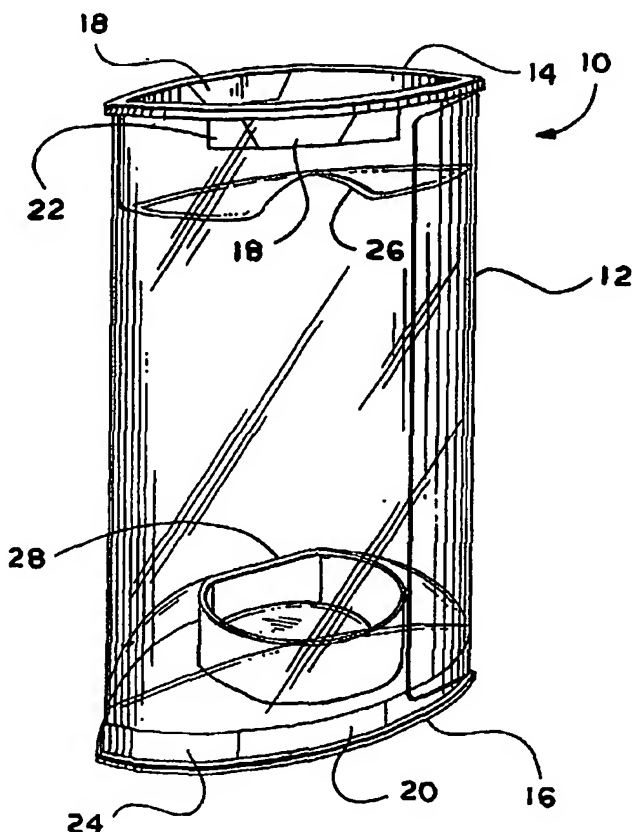
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PRODUCT CONTAINER WITH LOCKING END CAP



(57) Abstract: A package (10) is described that includes a sleeve (12) having at least one end defining an opening. The sleeve further includes at least one pair of locking tabs (18) extending therefrom, each locking tab including a locking edge, each locking tab being folded inwards into the opening. The package further includes a rigid end cap (14, 16) dimensioned to fit closely within the opening, the end cap including a rim (30, 32) designed so that, when the end cap is inserted into the opening, the rim engages the sleeve end and prevents the end cap from being inserted further into the opening. The end cap further includes a channel (22, 24) for receiving the pair of locking tabs, the channel having a ledge (34, 36) that engages the locking edge of each locking tab to prevent the end cap from being removed from the sleeve opening. Another described package provides a release mechanism for allowing an end cap to be removed without causing damage to the package.



ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PC 03/22528

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 B65D51/26 B65D25/10 B65D77/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 B65D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EP0-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
E	WO 03/104091 A (GELARDI JOHN A ; MAZUREK RICHARD (US); MEADWESTVACO PACKAGING GROUP L) 18 December 2003 (2003-12-18) figures 1-32	1-3, 7-13, 17-19
X	EP 1 134 164 A (POLESTAR TAYLOWE LTD) 19 September 2001 (2001-09-19)	1,10,11, 17
Y	column 2, line 4 - column 3, line 23; figures 1-3	2-6, 12-16
X	CH 683 514 A (STAEGGER & CO AG) 31 March 1994 (1994-03-31)	1,2,11, 12
A	column 4, line 15 - line 28 column 5, line 29 - line 39; figures 1,2,4	10,19
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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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X	FR 2 644 756 A (NOVEMBAL SA) 28 September 1990 (1990-09-28) page 2, line 1 - line 18; figure 1 -----	1,7,10, 11,17
X	ES 2 009 480 A (BOUCHE ALAIN) 16 September 1989 (1989-09-16) figures 1,2,4,5 -----	1,2, 10-12
A	US 2001/032795 A1 (WEINSTEIN MICHAEL ET AL) 25 October 2001 (2001-10-25) paragraph [0034] - paragraph [0035]; figures 10-14 -----	2,4,12, 14
Y	US 5 370 227 A (SHIBAZAKI OSAMU ET AL) 6 December 1994 (1994-12-06) column 5, line 42 - line 45; figure 1 -----	2-6, 12-16
Y	EP 0 652 161 A (LUCAS IND PLC) 10 May 1995 (1995-05-10) figure 1 -----	3,5,6, 13,15,16
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X	DE 27 14 936 A (THEYSOHN FRIEDRICH FA) 12 October 1978 (1978-10-12) page 6, paragraph 2 - page 7, paragraph 1; figures 2-4 -----	11,17
A	JP 03 275447 A (KAZUO YOSHITOME) 6 December 1991 (1991-12-06) figures 1,2 -----	2,12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US 03/22528

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☒ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☒ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1,2-6,10,11,12-16,19

Rigid end cap having contents receiving means located in the cap, package comprising such a cap and method of assembling the package;

2. claims: 1,7-9,11,17,18

Means facilitating removal of a rigid end cap from a package.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intel

Application No

PCT/03/22528

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